

June 16, 2020

## VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Luly E. Massaro, Commission Clerk  
Rhode Island Public Utilities Commission  
89 Jefferson Boulevard  
Warwick, RI 02888

**RE: Docket 4983 – Renewable Energy Growth (RE Growth) Program**  
**Request for: (1) an Extension of Time on 2020 First Open Enrollment Report; and (2) an Exception to: (a) the RE Growth Program for Non-Residential Customers Tariff (Tariff), and (b) the RE Growth Program Tariffs and Solicitation and Enrollment Process Rules (Rules)**

Dear Ms. Massaro:

On behalf of National Grid (the Company),<sup>1</sup> I would like to request that the Public Utilities Commission (Commission) grant the Company an extension of time to submit its first 2020 Rhode Island RE Growth Open Enrollment Report (Report), which will include the projects that the Company has selected for Certificates of Eligibility (COE) pursuant to R.I. Gen. Laws § 39-26.6-20(a) and (b).<sup>2</sup> Per the Rules approved by the Commission, the Company's Report is due by June 16, 2020.<sup>3</sup> The Company hereby requests an extension until June 22, 2020 to submit its Report, for several reasons, as described below, and also requests an exception to the Tariff and Rules regarding the performance guarantee deposit (PGD).

First, on June 8, 2020, the Company notified one project that it had been selected for the Large-Scale Solar Renewable Energy Class, but that project declined the Company's offer. Accordingly, on June 10, 2020, the Company notified two additional projects within the Large-Scale Solar Renewable Energy Class that they were offered COEs. Those projects have until June 15, 2020 to accept the Company's offer and be awarded a COE, upon providing the required Performance Guarantee Deposits by June 17, 2020.

In addition, on June 5, 2020, the Company offered another project selected for the Commercial-Scale Solar Renewable Energy Class a COE, and the project accepted it, but the project notified the Company that it was unable to submit its PGD in the amount of \$17,062.50 by June 12, 2020, as required by the Rules and the Tariff, RIPUC No. 2152-G, s. 3.a. and b. The project has

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<sup>1</sup> The Narragansett Electric Company d/b/a National Grid.

<sup>2</sup> Due to the COVID-19 Pandemic emergency period, the Company is providing a PDF version of the above-referenced transmittal. The Company will provide the PUC with a hard copy and, if needed, additional hard copies at a later date.

<sup>3</sup> The schedule is visible at: <https://ngus.force.com/s/article/Rhode-Island-Renewable-Energy-Growth-Program>.

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stated that it was not possible for it to submit the PGD on time, for reasons related to the current Pandemic,<sup>4</sup> but that it can do so by June 19, 2020. This project was the ninth ranked of nine projects that applied within its Class. Accordingly, if the Commission does not grant the extension, then the Company would have to withdraw the project's COE, no other project would be selected within this Class, and the unused capacity will be reserved for future RE Growth enrollments. The Company has advised the project that it will offer the project its extension of time to submit the PGD payment, subject to the Commission's approval of an exception to the Tariff and Rules.

For these reasons, the Company requests an extension of time until June 22, 2020 to submit its Report, and an exception to the Tariff and Rules regarding the PGD for one project. Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please contact me at: (781) 907-2126.

Very truly yours,



Laura Bickel  
RI Bar # 10055

cc: Docket 4983 Service List

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<sup>4</sup> The project proponents informed the Company that: (1) the project budget was unexpectedly cut; (2) a new financing partner was needed and located; (3) the financing partner's underwriting/due diligence process was delayed by several factors, such as an inability to visit the site in person because the project proponents' safety policies temporarily refused anyone other than its own employees access to the site; and (4) the project required internal approvals, but essential plant operations and safety protocols took precedence, which delayed the internal approvals for the project and disbursal of funds.

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**Service List updated 6/16/2020**

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